

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a system corresponding to direct printing, even though respective devices have a series of processing functions, high processing performance of the entire system cannot be expected. Accordingly, printing time is longer than that in a system having a personal computer. In a system having a digital camera, a printer and a set top box as a digital broadcast tuner interconnected via a 1394 serial bus, an image processing program necessary for direct printing is downloaded from e.g. the printer to the set top box which lacks an image processing function. Then, time required for data processing on a sample image is calculated at each of processing steps of the image processing, and a device to execute data conversion is determined based on the processing time. By this arrangement, direct printing can be efficiently performed.